

“Ripples”

The Official publication of the Southland Fly Fishing Club. The club was founded in 1974

July 2025

www.southlandflyfishingclub.org.nz



Next Club Meeting - AGM - July 29th - 7:30pm Fish & Game Office, 17 Eye Street



Southland Fly Fishing Club

President's Annual Report by Dave

President's Annual Report 2025

We started our year with our August Fly Tying Day but there were only four people who attended. The day was followed by our Annual Dinner with only nine people in attendance.

Prior to the fishing season we managed fly tying demonstrations at Hunting & Fishing as well as our casting day at Queens Park. There was some interest in the Club at the fly tying demonstrations and we had a good turnout at the Casting Day.

Once again the season was off to a bad start with high and dirty rivers. This resulted in little fishing to start with and the October Lodge Trip was cancelled. The November Lodge Trip did go ahead with four members on the trip. This was the only Lodge Trip that went ahead as planned. I was on my own at the April Trip and due to a poor weather forecast the May Lodge Trip didn't go ahead.

Several Club trips were also cancelled due to weather conditions and those that did go ahead were poorly supported. Those who did go on the Club trips enjoyed themselves and caught fish in all sorts of conditions. This year we had several mid-week trips but support could have been better.

We held our normal fly-fishing course with our usual tutor Mike Weddell from Mosgiel again this year. Once again, we received generous sponsorship support from Invercargill Hunting & Fishing and Manic Tackle. We thank them for their support and trust that people will support them in return. The course was not fully subscribed this year. The Mataura River was low and in good condition for the course. Fish were very hard to find during the course with only a couple being landed. Thanks go to all those who helped out on the course.

Thanks also go to those who helped out with the running of the Club - Chris McDonald continued his duties as Secretary Treasurer, doing a good job as usual, Gerda Johnstone for her duties as Vice President, David Murphy continued as custodian for the Lodge and has ensured it is up to scratch and Chris Cowie who continued as Club Librarian.

The Lodge working bee was just a bit of a cleanup this year. The water issues were sorted by the farmer and hopefully the water line is now deep enough that it won't get ploughed up again. The Lodge was used late summer by our overseas members but there was not a great deal of other use.

The number of fish entered in the Club competition was again low this year. There was only one member who put in a card every month. There were only four fish over 5lbs this year with the largest being 6lb. The fly-tying competition attracted a couple more entries than last year and there was a clear winner. Three members entered a fly each month. The junior trophy will be awarded this year as we had two juniors who took part in Club activities, both being quite active. The photo competition was held as usual at the June meeting. A lower than usual number of photos were entered this year. Congratulations to those who took out the trophies this year in the annual competitions. Sponsorship of the fish and fly-tying competitions was from Invercargill Hunting and Fishing.

We had our second fly tying day June. Turnout was poor.

Overall not a great year of Club activity. I am not sure if people have lost interest or that they are simply not getting involved in clubs as much as they used to.

Finally, I would like to thank our sponsors – Invercargill Hunting & Fishing and Manic Tackle for their continued support.



President 2024-2025.

Photo Competition Winners

We held our annual photo competition at the June Club Night. Unfortunately not many entries this year but still some good photos.



Winner - Scenic

Isaac



Winner - General

Isaac

Photo Competition Winners (cont)



Winner - Trophy

Isaac

Action winner was Chris with this months cover photo.

Cover Photo by Chris

Photo competition Action winner. Dave netting Kim's fish during the Fly Fishing Course. Mike looks on.

Club 50th Anniversary Dinner - August 9th, 2025

According to Secretary/Treasurer Chris the Southland Fly Fishing Club is fifty years old this year.

Our 50th Anniversary Dinner will be held at the Thar and Feather Restaurant, 410 Elles Road, Invercargill (Southland Tavern) on August 9th. Booking is for 6:30pm.

All present and past Club Members and partners are invited. This is the same day as our August Fly Tying Day so you can come to both the Fly Tying Day and the Dinner. If you are coming to the dinner, let Chris (027423 7016) know so we can get the number to confirm the booking. Do this now.

Annual Competition Report by Gerda

Annual Competitions 2024-2025

Fly Tying

This year our competition flies were the Elk Hair Caddis, Parachute Adams, Dads Favourite, Green Stone Fly, CDC Emerger and the Koura.

Entries received this season were the same as the previous one, being 18, again all of good quality.

We again have a clear winner who accumulated 17 points. Well done you.

Remember for those of you who enter flies in this competition you stand to win a \$20.00 Hunting and Fishing voucher which really come in handy. It is also an opportunity to create your own fly or one you have found successful to share with others. We will be having an all day fly tying day on the 9th of August, see you there.

Fishing Competition

A total of 17 cards were entered this year well down from 32 from the year before. 12 Browns were entered, and 5 Rainbows.

Weights for the Rainbows were as follows 2¼lb up to 4½lb.

Weights for the Browns were from 1½lb all the way up to 6lb.

The winning Brown was caught at Waituna at 6lb, 22inches long and a condition factor of 56.35.

The winning Rainbow was caught at Mavora weighing in at 4½lb and 24 inches long.

Five of these fish were caught on Hare and Coppers, 4 on Woolly Buggers, 2 on Pheasant Tails, 2 on Royal Wulffs, 1 on a Willow Grub, 2 on Green Stone Flies and lastly 1 on a Yellow Rabbit.

These fish were caught in the upper Oreti, the Aparima, Waituna, the Von Lake, Lake Dunstan, Mavora Lakes, and Mataura River.

There was only one person who managed to supply a card for fish, for every month of our season, dedication indeed, because the weather this season wasn't always accommodating.

The best condition factors were as follows:

	56.35
	45.2
	44.31

The best season totals:

31½lb
10 ½lb
6¾lb

Gerda Johnstone
Competitions co-ordinator

Competitions by Gerda

Fly Tying Competition

Just three flies entered at the June meeting and Dave was the clear winner. The Hunting & Fishing gift card went to Gerda.

Photo Competition

Not a great number of photos but enough to make it worthwhile. Isaac's photos won the scenic, trophy and general sections while Chris took out the action sections. Photos are in this Ripples.



Dave's winning nymph.

Annual General Meeting - July 29th

Southland Fly Fishing Club (Inc)

Notice is hereby given that THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Club will be held at the Southland Fish & Game Office, 17 Eye Street, Invercargill on Tuesday 29th July 2025 at 7:30pm.

AGENDA

Apologies

Minutes of the 2024 AGM

Matters Arising

Chairman's Report

Annual Accounts

Election of Officers

Signatories to Bank Account

Adoption of New Constitution

General Business

Presentation of Trophies

Supper

C McDonald

Club Secretary

We need a good turnout at the AGM to ensure that we have a quorum so that we can adopt the new Club Constitution.

Draft Constitution

Changes to the law governing Incorporated Societies require all to adopt a new constitution. Chris has been working hard on our new constitution and we need to adopt this at a General Meeting and the best opportunity is at this year's Annual General Meeting, otherwise we will have to hold a Special General Meeting.

This means we need you to read the draft constitution which can be found here:

https://www.southlandflyfishingclub.org.nz/images/Docs/SFFC_Draft_Constitution_working.pdf

Please come along to the AGM so we have enough members there to adopt this new constitution.

To encourage you along we will be providing supper after the meeting.

August Competition Fly by Dave

Coloburiscus Nymph

The coloburiscus nymph should be reasonably common in fast clear rivers.

I have tied these before but a long time ago so I had to look at a few peoples patterns before settling on this. The good part is that I had all the materials required.

I will not demonstrate this fly at the July meeting as it is the AGM. I will demonstrate it at both the August Executive Meeting on August 5th and at the Fly Tying Day on August 9th.

Materials

Hook	Black Magic C12
Thread	Unithread dark brown 6/0
Weight	.020 lead wire or .025 lead free wire
Tail	Brown hackle fibres
Abdomen	Brown ostrich herl
Thorax	Dark brown rabbit dubbing
Wing case	Brown Raffia
Legs	Pheasant tail



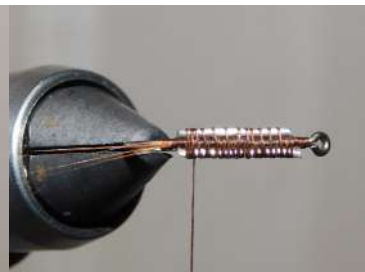
Put the hook in the vice and run the thread to the bend of the hook.



Tie in tail a bit shorter than the length of the thread from the hook to the bend.



Cut a length of wire and tie along one side of the hook.



Cut a second length of wire and tie along the other side of the hook.



Bind both pieces of wire on firmly.



Tie in ostrich herl by the tail.



Wrap the ostrich herl forward half way to the eye of the hook and tie off.



Tie in the raffia on top of the hook.



Dub the thorax.



Tie raffia across the thorax to form wing case.



Tie in two or three strands of pheasant tail across the head and arrange them to point down and back.



Trim legs to length and whip finish.

Coming Events (MM=Monthly Meeting, CM = Committee Meeting)

29 th July	AGM	Election of Officers, MVM, Prize Giving - (Supper)
5 th Aug	CM	Arranging the calendar for the next season
9 th Aug	Fly tying	Fly tying day – Fish and Game 9:00am
9 th Aug		50 th Anniversary Dinner
24 th Aug	Fishing	<u>Club Trip (winter)</u> Meet at Fish & Game 9:00am
26 th Aug	MM	

Club Contacts

- Address **Southland Fly Fishing Club, PO Box 1689, Invercargill, New Zealand**
- Website www.southlandflyfishingclub.org.nz
- President Dave Harris, 30 Baxter Street Invercargill (027 201 6722) daveharris823@gmail.com
- Secretary Chris McDonald, 334 Racecourse Road, Invercargill (03 217 3733) mcdonald.ccnd@kinect.co.nz
- Vice-President Gerda Johnstone, (022 166 1149) gerda.johnstone10@gmail.com
- Editor Dave Harris daveharris823@gmail.com
Items for publication must be submitted to the editor, prior to the 10th of the month
- Librarian Chris Cowie (027 236 9576)
- Lodge Custodian Dave Murphy, 35 Brown Road, Invercargill dmurphy@southnet.co.nz (03 230 4698) or (0276752324)

Club items for sale

Metal Badges \$15 ea.



Cloth Patches \$12 ea.



Club Meetings

The club meets at 7:30pm on the last Tuesday of each month (except December) at the Fish & Game building, 17 Eye St, West Invercargill, Invercargill 9810. [The February meeting is on the river.](#)

Executive Committee meets on the first Tuesday of the month following the general meeting, except for Dec/Jan, includes fly tying, so come along and bring your gear if you want help with a fly—all members welcome.

Club Resources

The club has an extensive library of Books and Videos, contact the Librarian

A blow up Rubber Boat and a set of five Radio's, which can be borrowed by club members, contact Chris McDonald.

Club Sponsors



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